REVIVES OLD PLAN

Capt. Joseph M. Locke, U. S. A., Retired, Proposes Military Academy in Each State.

Establishment of a military academy each state of the Union, at which students should be under strict discipline and military instruction-a plan hich was put into partial operation soon after the close of the civil war, but which was abandoned after a few years—is suggested by Capt. Joseph M. Locke, U. S. A., retired, 1260 Columbia road. Capt. Locke, who was brevetted major and lieutenant colonel in the civil war, was active in the establishment of such an academy at Dayton, Ohio, being aided in the work by Gen. J. D. Cox. afterward Governor of Ohio, and by Rutherford B. Hayes, also governor of the state and afterward President of the United States. Owing to failure of funds the academy was

forced to close in its third year. forced to close in its third year.

The plan as detailed by Capt. Locke provided that students at each state military academy should be chosen by competitive examination from among the high school students of the state with the highest scholastic standing. Each school district was to have at least one cadet in the academy.

Control of the Academy.

The academy was to be under the diof a board of visitors, of which the governor of the state, ex-officio, should be president, the remaining members being appointed from the several districts of the state. The superintendent of each academy was to be a man of military experience, and the

a man of military experience, and the commandant of cadets was also to be a practical military man, both to be either resigned, retired or active officers of the United States Army.

The curriculum of the academies, the pian provided, was to be military and based on that of West Point; and the rules and regulations established at the academies were to be identical, as far as possible, with those in force at the United States Military Academy.

The pian provided that students on graduation were to receive from the governor of the state commissions as second lieutenants in the state militia, promotions being made annually as required by incoming cadet graduates until each graduate should have served at least one year as captain. After this they were to be transferred to a list subject to call into service when necessary. From such a list the plan provided that the governor of the state was to select regimental, staff and general officers of the militia of the state. The plan also provided for automatic retirement on attainment of a specified age.

Federal Government Aid.

A definite proportion of infantry, artillery and cavalry equipment for each of the proposed state academies was to be provided by the federal government, which was also to detail military inspectors to insure complete military concordance between the various academies and the regular military establishment of the United

States.

The plan was put in operation at Dayton, the citizens of that place having offered best inducements for the location of the Ohio academy. Library, hysical laboralocation of the Ohio academy. Library, scientific cabinets and physical laboratory equipment for the academy were furnished by Capt. Locke from those of Prof. John Locke. Regulations were prepared at the West Point Academy under the supervision of Capt. E. C. Boynton, adjutant, and others, and were approved by Gov. I. D. Cox of Ohio. Capt. C. B. Stevers, U. S. A., was commandant of cadets.
Rapid increase in the number of cadets enrolled required further advances from the private funds of Capt. Locke. The growth of the corps continued to a point where the Dayton guarantors conceived the idea that they would not be required to fulfill their promises. Cramped conditions followed the rapid growth of the cadet corps at the acad-

Cramped conditions followed the rapid growth of the cadet corps at the academy until at the close of the third academic year, June 30, 1868, the academy was compelled to close. When this occurred the Dayton guarantors came forward to redeem their pledges, but Capt. Locke declined to make an effort to rehabilitate the academy and reopen it for another academic year.

Workings of the Plan.

Discussing the plan and its actual operation at the Dayton academy for three years, Capt. Locke said:

three years, Capt. Locke said:

"The three years' working under the system clearly demonstrated that the enforcement of strict details in military requirements and drill in no way was repugnant to cadets, but, as expected, created a satisfactory physical development, and laudable pride in military affairs, subordination, organization and systematic procedure in all matters of detail.

"Since the days in which the scheme was devised, the great changes in army equipments and practices, I realize, require enlarged training of officers: This has in no way diminished the value of the proposed schemes, but enhanced the same. Under existing conditions some change is desirable, to wit.

wit:

First. The cadet corps to be divided into two classes, as follows:
Class A, who would pay for full benefits from the institution, including uniforms, etc. Class B, a definite number
accepted by the state for the entire
course, including graduation, the state
paying a fixed sum for all expenses of
each member of class B, said sum to
be refunded by the cadet, to the state
in case of dismission under charges, or in case of dismission under charges, or failure to graduate, thus insuring at least the desired number of graduates and their service to the state, the selection of cadets in class B being governed solely by their superior cualifications, regardless as to ability to meet accademic expenses. academic expenses

Reimbursement for State.

"In case of a graduate from class B passing a rigid examination by the general government and thereupon commissioned in the regular army, that the general government reimburse the state for expenses incurred in the education of said graduate. In case of graduates of class A then the general government to reimburse the cadet an amount equal to that in case of cadet in class B. Second. In lieu of initiation, com-

in class B. Second. In fleu of initiation, com-mencing with the state and working upward, let the general government by legislation establish the foundation, then ramify down to the states. The preliminary legislative steps exist in

There is a prevailing belief, not confined to military people, that the carrying out of the scheme would not only remove the existing evils of the state military system, but replace them with a thoroughly drilled and equipped body of troops, properly and well officered, and ready for prompt action in case of necessity, having, also, to a large extent, the moral influence in checking disorder as has been so often illustrated when United States regular troops in value been called upon to suppress rioting, in which cases the rioters realize they had to meet, not another lot of imperfectly organized men, but troops thoroughly disciplined and commanded by properly trained officers.

The general government would recognize the fact that it had a reserve, drilled and disciplined in conformity with its regular service, which would respond promptly to requisitions upon the state governments, also in each state a surplus of trained officers capable, in a limited time, of converting redditional state volunteers, recruits and drafted men into good soldiers, well officered.

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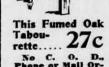
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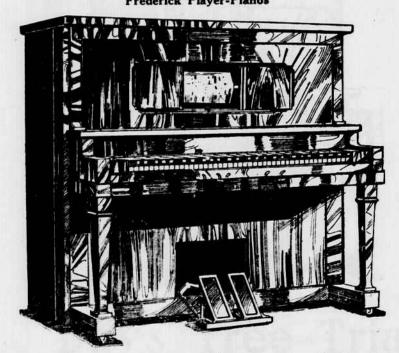
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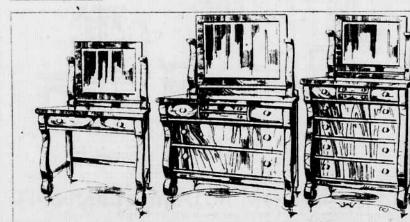


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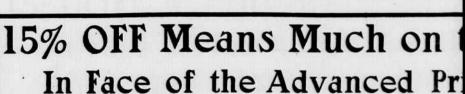
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